Dr. Jack's Christmas Album IV

This is the fourth edition of a project that started in 2011 as collection of my favorite gangster rap songs, and has grown into a full scale publication. Dr. Jack's Christmas Album IV is the most in depth edition yet, and is the direct result of hard work, enthusiasm and love for music. This year was particularly exciting as I made a conscious effort to listen to as many albums released in the calendar year, in the hopes of making a more informed Album of The Year list.

The format is as follows: Each album that I listened to this year will receive a half page review. Then, up to three songs will be selected to be included in this document, as a starting point for someone who found the record interesting. The top twenty songs overall will make up the playlist of Dr. Jack's Christmas Album IV. No album can have two songs in the top 20. The next thirty songs will make up a sort of bonus track list; songs that I found exceptional and wanted to recognize, but missed being in the top twenty. Upwards of 3,000 songs on 154 different albums were listened to and considered, making the Christmas Album IV the top fraction of a percent of all music that I listened to this calendar year.

Following all of the album reviews, there will be some additional analysis, graphs, and year end lists, as well as exclusive interviews with a select group of artists.

Please note that the title of the album on its respective review is a hyperlink to its Wikipedia or Bandcamp page, if you are interested in learning more about the work.

It should go without saying that this entire document is entirely my opinion and nothing else. Please do not be offended if I criticize a work you enjoy, or praise a work you did not. The goal of this document is to present a small example of a years' worth of enjoyed music. It is my hope that you learn of several new artists, and grow to enjoy them as I have.

A special thanks to the following individuals, who attempted the examination based on last year's project:

Alex McConnell
Maggie McConnell
Katie McConnell
Matthew Munns
Sarah Huddleston
Sean Galgano
Cooper Casale
Madolyn McGylnn
Mark Austin
Chad Nieri

Key
Reviewed on a previous Christmas Album
Later in the document
Earlier in the document
Bonus Tracks
General Track
(Chronology tables will be limited to 5 closest for space)

January

Within and Without (2011) (40:43)

Washed Out

My Rating: 6 Genre: Experimental, Lo-Fi

The Microphones Chronology	
1998	Don't Wake Me Up
1999	Window
2000	It Was Hot We Stayed In The Water
2001	The Glow Pt. 2
2003	**Mount Eerie**

Chillwave is a unique movement in modern music that has only been around since the very late 2000s. It has origins in lo-fi, synth-pop, and shoegaze, and these elements are combined to create a minimalistic and hazy pop sound. Washed Out is credited with being one of, if not the founding artists of the genre. Paracosm is an unassuming album, and one that is reminiscent of Youth Lagoon's The Year of Hibernation. But it is in the definition of Chillwave that these two album differ. Where Hibernation strove for large crescendos with its lo-fi reverbed instruments, Paracosm attempts to make tracks that have no build up, and focus on dense sounds and danceable melodies. The result is a very relaxing a social album.

	Broken Horses	Washed Out	Paracosm	2013
	It All Feels Right	Washed Out	Paracosm	2013

MGMT (2013) (40:43)

MGMT

My Rating: 6 Genre: Chillwave

MGMT Chronology	
2007	Oracular Spectacular
2010	Congratulations
2013	**MGMT**

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	It All Feels Right	Washed Out	Paracosm	2013

Within and Without (2011) (40:43)

Washed Out

My Rating: 6 Genre: Chillwave

Washed Out Chronology	
2011	**Within and Without**
2013	Paracosm

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Fashion Week (2015) (40:43) (Soundtrack Album)

Washed Out

My Rating: 6 Genre: Chillwave

Death Grips Chronology	
2012	No Love Deep Web
2013	Government Plates
2014	n*ggas on the moon
2015	**Fashion Week**
2015	Jenny Death

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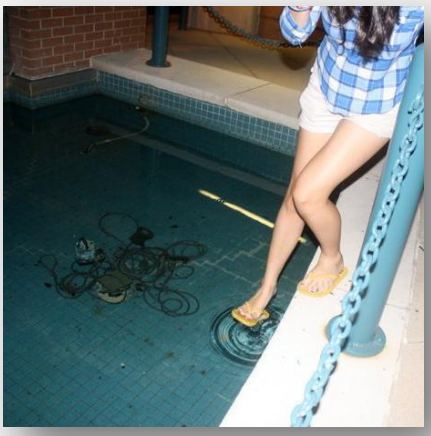
	It All Feels Right	Washed Out	Paracosm	2013

D'Uberville (2011) (40:00)

The Whiting Brothers

My Rating: 5 Genre: Lo-Fi, Post-punk Revival



The Whiting Brothers Chronology	
2011	**D'Uberville**

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